

largely tipped with white; upper surface of the wings grey, their under surface white; bill leaden grey, darkest at the tip; feet blackish brown.

Total length  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches; bill  $\frac{3}{4}$ ; wing  $4\frac{3}{4}$ ; tail, 3; tarsi  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

*Hab.* Central Australia.

*Remark.*—This large and fine species is unlike every other known member of the genus. It is most nearly allied to *A. albiventris*, but differs from that bird in the jet-black colouring of its under tail-coverts, and from *A. cinereus* in its smaller size and the greater extent of the black on the face. The specimen from which the above description was taken has been kindly sent to me by Mr. S. White, of the Reed-beds, near Adelaide, South Australia, who informs me that it was shot by him at St. Becket's Pool, lat.  $28^{\circ} 30'$ , on the 23rd of August, 1863, and who in the note accompanying it says, "I have never seen this bird south. It collects at night, like *A. sordidus*, and utters the same kind of call. It seems to be plentiful all over the north country. I saw it at St. Becket's Pool, feeding on the ground, soaring high in the air, and clinging in bushes, like the others. The two sexes appeared to be very similar in outward appearance. The stomachs of those examined were fleshy, and contained the remains of small Coleoptera.

2. ON SOME RECENTLY DISCOVERED BONES OF THE LARGEST KNOWN SPECIES OF DODO (*DIDUS NAZARENUS*, BARTLETT).  
By ALFRED NEWTON, M.A., F.L.S., F.Z.S.

(Plate VIII.)

The three bones which I now have the pleasure of exhibiting have been recently received by me from my brother Mr. Edward Newton, a Corresponding Member of this Society, who himself found two of them in a cave on the south-west side of the island of Rodriguez, which he visited on the 2nd of November last. The third was obtained on the same island, about the same time, by Captain Barkly, a son and aide-de-camp of the Governor of Mauritius. All three belong, without doubt, to the largest known species of Dodo, to which Mr. Bartlett (P. Z. S. 1851, p. 284) applied the name *Didus nazareus*, and which was so unaccountably overlooked by Messrs. Strickland and Melville in their excellent monograph of the curious group *Didinæ*. These authors, as Mr. Bartlett showed (*loc. cit.*), did not distinguish between this very large bird and the smaller and more slender "Solitaire" (*Pezophaps solitaria*), which, if we are to trust the evidence before us, was, equally with *Didus nazareus* and *D. ineptus*, an inhabitant of Rodriguez.

The two bones found by my brother were picked up near the entrance of a very dry cave, where little, if any, stalagmitic deposit was forming, at least at the time of his visit. One is a perfect left *tarso-metatarsus*, and the other a left *humerus*, wanting its extremities, as is so often the case in specimens of this bone found under circum-

stances which lead to the belief that the bird to which it belonged had been eaten by men or dogs.

The bone found by Captain Barkly is a right *femur*. Though nearly perfect, it seems to have been much exposed to the action of the weather, and, in consequence of its condition, it has sustained a little damage by the crumbling away of some part of its extremities. This has probably happened since its discovery; but one advantage results from the circumstance—namely, that the cellular structure of the bone is thereby rendered plainly visible.

I proceed to give the dimensions of these specimens, and, for convenience of comparison, I shall, as far as possible, follow Dr. Melville's plan of measurement ('The Dodo and its Kindred,' page 116).

Fragment of left *Humerus*. (Pl. VIII. fig. 3.)

	inches.	lines.
Transverse diameter of shaft . . . . .	0	6
Antero-posterior diameter of shaft . . . . .	0	4 $\frac{2}{3}$

Left *Tarso-metatarsus*. (Pl. VIII. fig. 2.)

Length from middle trochlear groove to inter-condyloid tubercle . . . . .	} 6	10		
external trochlear to external condyloid fossa			6	4
internal trochlear to internal condyloid fossa			6	7
Breadth of upper extremity . . . . .	1	6		
Antero-posterior diameter of the same . . . . .	1	3		
Breadth of lower extremity . . . . .	1	7		
Projection of ento-calcaneal process . . . . .	0	8		

Right *Femur*. (Pl. VIII. fig. 1.)

Length from inter-condyloid notch to upper surface of neck	6	0
upper edge of trochanter major to external condyle . . . . .	} 6	9
Transverse diameter of shaft . . . . .		
Antero-posterior . . . . .	0	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Transverse diameter of upper extremity . . . . .	2	0 $\frac{2}{3}$
Transverse diameter of lower extremity . . . . .	1	10

All those specimens, unlike those in the Paris Museum, are entirely free from incrustation.

I believe there are no other examples of the *humerus* and *femur* of this species in this country. The specimen of the *tarso-metatarsus* figured in illustration of Mr. Bartlett's paper, to which I before referred (P. Z. S. 1851, Aves, pl. XLV. fig. 1) is, as I learn from Mr. Gerrard, now in the British Museum, and there are other examples of it in the Andersonian Museum at Glasgow.

I must here tender my thanks to Mr. W. K. Parker for the kind assistance he has rendered me in accurately measuring these bones.

And now I wish to make one suggestion. It is well known that at Oxford there is an old picture of a Dodo, painted by one of the Saverys, which seems hitherto to have been referred without hesi-

tation to *Didus ineptus*. Mr. Strickland, in speaking of it, says:—"A remarkable feature in it is its colossal scale, the Dodo standing about 3 feet 6 inches high, and being double the size which the picture in the British Museum, the description of eye-witnesses, and the existing remains warrant us in attributing to the bird. It is difficult to assign a motive to the artist for thus magnifying an object already sufficiently uncouth in appearance" ('The Dodo,' &c. p. 31). Is it not possible that the artist may in this painting have taken a life-sized portrait of the large species (*Didus nazareus*, Bartlett) to which these bones belong?

In conclusion, I have to state that I should be very glad if these remarks were the means of exciting further search for the remains of the Dodo and its allies. In Rodriguez the bones must be far from scarce, and, as the present instance shows, they may be found with little trouble. My brother picked up two of them, as I have said, in a cave during a very hasty visit. It is a matter of the greatest regret that a regularly organized search is not instituted by some resident in that island, or by some visitor to whom time is no object. We may depend upon it that a rich reward awaits the careful explorer of the Mascarene caverns and alluvial deposits.

### 3. DIAGNOSES OF NEW FORMS OF MOLLUSCA FROM THE VANCOUVER DISTRICT. BY PHILIP P. CARPENTER, B.A., PH.D.

#### TEBEBBATULA UNGUICULA, n. s.

*T. t. juniore* "Terebratulinae capiti-serpentis" *simillima, sed latiore, subtriangulata; punctis valde conspicuis; costis conspicuis, interdum obtusioribus, aliis intercalantibus; intus, amento suboctiformi, postice aperto, cruris diagonalibus cardini affixis: testa adulta valva inferiore subrotundata, marginem versus haud planata; umbone valde tumente, latiore; striis radiantibus, ut in "T. capite-serpentis" conspicuis; marginibus crenulatis, haud undatis; intus amento majore, bisinuato, dorsaliter haud continuo, calcaribus duobus munito.*

Long. .6, lat. .5, alt. .3 poll.

*Hab.* San Diego, 6 fm.; Monterey, not rare in 20 fm., (in California State Geological Survey) *Cooper*. Neeah Bay (valve), *Swan*. Vancouver, *Forbes*.

The specimens sent by Dr. Cooper were all of small size, and, from the intercalation of riblets near the margin, clearly immature. They presented the incomplete loop of the restricted genus to which Dr. Cooper affiliated them. Notwithstanding, as both Davidson and Woodward state that the young of the British species has the loop similarly open, it remained doubtful whether this might not prove conspecific. Messrs. Reeve and Hanley unhesitatingly pronounced them to be "*caput-serpentis*, jun.," the latter gentleman stating that they presented the peculiar form of that species which belongs to the Mediterranean examples. Dr. Forbes, however, was fortunate enough to